Piravom Hospital.

178. *MR. K. M. PAUL: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(a) whether they are aware of the fact that there is no adequate supply of medicine to the Piravom Hospital to cope with the demand made by the public for the same; and

(b) whether any action has been taken in this matter to alleviate public distress?

DR. S. JOHN: (a) No. The supply of medicines to the Piravom Dispensary is adequate

(b) In view of the answer to part (a), this does not arise.

Venereal diseases.

179. *MR. S. MUTHUKARUPPA PILLAI: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(a) whether they are aware that syphilis is widely prevalent in the State;

(b) are they aware that syphilis being a very infectious disease and also being transmittable to the issues it is very likely that in due course the health of the nation as a whole will markedly deteriorate unless efficient treatment is meted out to the victims;

(c) are they aware that on account of the cost and length of the treatment and ignorance about the seriousness of the disease most of the victims do not take any or take only partial treatment: and

(d) whether they would consider the desirability of starting venereal diseases clinics in different parts of the State attached to the existing hospitals or otherwise for the free and efficient treatment of the poor victims and doing vigorous propaganda to remove the ignorance about the disease and to teach the ways and means to avoid infection and to induce the erring people to lead a wholesome life?

DR. S. JOHN: (a) Prevalent, but not widely.

(b) Yes.

(c) Government are not aware of this.

(d) All the Government allopathic medical institutions are supplied with the necessary medicines for the treatment of venereal diseases and those who resort to the institutions are rendered the necessary medical aid.

As for the propaganda the Health Education Staff of the Public Health Department is doing their best in the matter.

Travancore Civil Service Examination.

180. *MR. D. THOMAS (*Kalkulam cum Vilavancode*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(a) when was the system of conducting the Travancore Civil Service Examination introduced for recruitment to the higher division of the public service;

(b) the number of examinations conducted ever since and the total number of candidates that have passed;

(c) the total number of Latin Catholics that have competed for the Travancore Civil Service Examinations; and

(d) the number of Latin Catholics that have come out successful?

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